

REMARKS

The Application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed February 7, 2005. Claims 1, 3, 11, 15, 17, 22-28 and 35 have been amended. Claims 1-9, 11-15, and 17-36 are now pending.

Claims 29-34 and 36 stand allowed. Additionally, Applicants appreciate the Examiner's Acknowledgement that claims 10-14 and 16-21 contain allowable subject matter. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, each of the pending claims is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance.

Claim 3 stands objected to for informalities. Claim 3 has been amended to cure these informalities and is now allowable.

Claims 5, 6, 9, 27, 28, and 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Specifically, claims 5, 6, 9, and 35 stand rejected for reciting the limitation "said conductive connection." Claims 1 and 35 have been amended to overcome this rejection. Further, the "confusing" language of claims 27 and 28 have been amended to overcome the remaining rejections.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 22, and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,774,039 to Drewery ("Drewery"). In addition, Claims 1-3, 6, 8, 9, 15, 22-24, and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,764,879 to Nagao et al ("Nagao") in view of Drewery. For the reasons that follow, each of the outstanding rejections is traversed.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation "wherein said plating occurs in an electroless bath," as previously recited in dependent claim 10. As acknowledged by the Examiner, claim 10 is allowable. For at least this reason, claim 1 as amended is allowable. Claims 2-9 and 11-14 depend from claim 1 and are also allowable for at least these reasons and for the unique combination of elements recited therein.

Independent claim 15 has been amended to recite “plating said contact feature and said supplemental plating; and subsequently testing said die using said supplemental plating structure as a probe point.” The substance of this limitation was previously found in dependent claim 16, which the Examiner previously acknowledged as being allowable subject matter. Accordingly, claim 15 and depending claims 17-21 are also allowable for at least this reason and for the unique combination of elements recited therein.

Claim 22 has been amended to recite “a plurality of dice, each of said dice having a plurality of first platable features; and a plurality of second platable features, wherein each first platable feature is conductively connected to more than one second platable feature, and each of said second platable features being electrically connected to more than one first platable feature.” None of the prior art of record, whether considered alone or in combination, teach or suggest each of the limitations recited by claim 22.

Even assuming, *arguendo*, that Drewery and/or Nagao teach “first and second platable features” in their respective dielectric layer and copper bar (Drewery) and/or the electrode pads and probe pads (Nagao), as argued by the Examiner, neither reference teaches the remaining limitations required by claim 22. For example, neither teaches that “each first platable feature is conductively connected to more than one second platable feature, and each of said second platable features being electrically connected to more than one first platable feature.” For at least these reasons, neither Drewery nor Nagao anticipate or render obvious the claimed invention as embodied in claim 22.

Claims 23-28 each depend from claim 22 and contain every limitation recited therein. For at least these reasons and for the unique combination of elements recited therein, each of claims 22-28 is allowable and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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